

APPENDIX A: LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letters of Support received from the following organizations:

- Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot
- U.S. Senator Richard Durbin
- U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth
- U.S. Representative Bobby Rush
- State Representative Sonya Harper
- Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer
- Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
- Chicago Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Planning Council
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Elevate
- Environmental Law & Policy Center
- Growing Home
- Urban Growers Collective
- Active Transportation Alliance
- Friends of the Parks
- Friends of the Forest Preserves
- Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Kennedy King College
- Chicago Architecture Biennial
- Chicago Park District
- Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation
- Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce
- Chicago Urban League
- E.G. Woode
- Alderman Stephanie Coleman
- Illinois Department of Transportation



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to urge your consideration and selection of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This project—community-driven and supported by the City—is a powerful demonstration of our local and federal commitment to equity and sustainability.

A RAISE grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those who have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

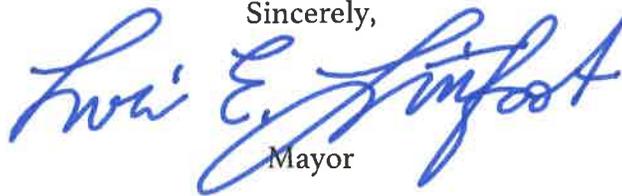
This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City of Chicago, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan is an effort to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce opportunities, housing stabilization and conservation of nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

Chicago residents enjoy world-class parks, an unparalleled Lakefront Trail, and many open space assets along the river and our historic boulevards. An expansion of trails and open

spaces is sorely needed across our neighborhoods, including Englewood, to benefit existing residents and for the city to achieve health, economic, climate, and transportation goals. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

I am excited to share the opportunities this project presents and am fully committed to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louis E. Sinfelt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "L" and "S".

Mayor

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing regarding the application submitted by the City of Chicago for RAISE funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation. This federal funding will enable Chicago to build a public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood along an abandoned elevated railroad line.

The Englewood Line Trail will serve Chicagoans that have been underserved and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development in the area, and enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment. This initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development.

Chicago, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are proposals for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's goals for workforce opportunities, housing stabilization, and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

Please give full and fair consideration to the City of Chicago's application. If you require additional information, please contact my State Director, Clarisol Duque, at (312) 353-4952.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

United States Senate

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development and enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan is an effort to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long-term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

As a U.S. Senator representing Illinois, I have made it a priority to support innovative infrastructure projects that strive to improve connectivity and provide opportunities for economic development in traditionally underserved communities. The Englewood Line Trail will provide recreational opportunities, transportation access and a connection to nature to residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. I believe that this project aligns with both my priorities as an elected official and the core goals of the RAISE program.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Chicago's application to the RAISE program. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge your full and fair consideration of this application. If you have any questions, please follow up with my Chicago Director, Loren Harris, at (312) 886-2506.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

BOBBY L. RUSH
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS



COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, ENERGY
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
COMMODITY EXCHANGES, ENERGY, AND CREDIT
LIVESTOCK AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE
NUTRITION, OVERSIGHT, AND DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON
2188 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1301

CHICAGO
11750 SOUTH WESTERN AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60643-4732

RUSH.HOUSE.GOV

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my full support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan is an effort to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

The Englewood Line Trail will provide recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature to residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

As a member of Congress, I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bobby L. Rush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bobby" being the most prominent part.

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CAPITOL OFFICE

276-S Stratton Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
(217) 782-5971 (Office)



SONYA M. HARPER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
6th DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE:

4926 S. Ashland
Chicago, Illinois 60609
(773) 925-6580 (Office)
(773) 925-6584 (Fax)
repsnyaharper@gmail.com

April 1st 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg,
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

This letter is written in full support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

As the Founder and Executive Director for Grow Greater Englewood and past Director of Outreach at Growing Home, Inc., the city's first and only USDA-certified organic high production urban farm, I am passionate about developing healthy spaces for underserved community residents to thrive physically, spiritually and emotionally. As a past community organizer and current resident of Englewood, I have brought together residents and organizations to provide a holistic approach in providing for community sustainability. As a State Legislator, drafting and passing legislation to provide funding to provide breathing room and healthy space for enjoyment and healthy growth is a priority.

The Englewood Line Trail will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural

District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

I am excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process.

With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

I fully support this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonya M. Harper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sonya M. Harper
State Representative 6th District

COUNTY BUILDING

118 North Clark Street, Suite 567
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 603-3019
(312) 603-4055 FAX
dennis.deer@cookcountyil.gov

DISTRICT OFFICE

3600 W. Ogden BLVD
Chicago, IL 60623
(773) 722-0140
(773) 722-0145 FAX
dennis.deer@cookcountyil.gov

Chairman Health and Hospitals Committee
Chairman Environment & Sustainability Committee
Chairman Human Relations Committee
Vice-Chairman Cook County Health Board of Directors
Vice-Chairman FPD Finance
Vice-Chairman FPD Environment & Sustainability



DENNIS DEER

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONER - 2ND DISTRICT

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As Cook County Commissioner of the 2nd County District I am in support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

I fully supports this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Dennis Deer

Dennis Deer
Cook County Board of Commissioners, 2nd District



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS

JENNIFER "SIS" KILLEN, P.E., PTOE

SUPERINTENDENT

69 West Washington Street, 24th Floor • Chicago, Illinois 60602 • (312) 603-1601

TONI PRECKWINKLE

PRESIDENT

**Cook County Board
of Commissioners**

BRANDON JOHNSON

1st District

DENNIS DEER

2nd District

BILL LOWRY

3rd District

STANLEY MOORE

4th District

DEBORAH SIMS

5th District

DONNA MILLER

6th District

ALMA E. ANAYA

7th District

LUIS ARROYO, JR

8th District

PETER N. SILVESTRI

9th District

BRIDGET GAINER

10th District

JOHN P. DALEY

11th District

BRIDGET DEGNEN

12th District

LARRY SUFFREDIN

13th District

SCOTT R. BRITTON

14th District

KEVIN B. MORRISON

15th District

FRANK AGUILAR

16th District

SEAN M. MORRISON

17th District

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: City of Chicago Englewood Line Trail RAISE Grant Support Letter (CCDoTH)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment. This effort aligns directly with the draft recommendations of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highway's Bicycle Plan, currently under development. The installation of high-quality bicycle and pedestrian facilities allows riders of all ages and abilities to travel throughout our region safely, comfortably, and supports a healthy lifestyle. The Englewood Line Trail is a piece to the regional network of these types of facilities.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

Mr. Buttigieg
Secretary

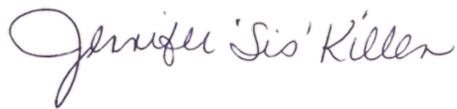
April 5, 2022

Re: City of Chicago Englewood Line Trail RAISE Grant Support Letter (CCDoTH)

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Jennifer "Sis" Killen
Superintendent



CITY OF CHICAGO



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Englewood Line Trail is estimated to cost \$68,236,854, out of which the City of Chicago is requesting \$45,000,000 from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program.

This project has been developed with extensive community partnership, is supported by numerous preliminary and complementary plans, and the City of Chicago is fully committed to its construction. Notably, given that most of the project expenditures will be located in historically burdened census tracts, the project is eligible for 0% match.

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the City of Chicago's commitment to funding the remainder of the project costs through local funding and/or other sources upon award of the RAISE funding. Also, as a sign of our commitment and belief in the transformative potential of this project and its alignment with RAISE goals, the Chicago Department of Transportation is prepared to begin preliminary design with local funding.

We are appreciative of your consideration of our request and your ongoing support for our efforts to bring equitable, sustainable, and accessible transportation opportunities and transformative quality of life improvements to our city and its residents.

Sincerely,

Gia Biagi
Commissioner
Chicago Department of Transportation

Metropolitan Planning Council

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Metropolitan Planning Council is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

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We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Metropolitan Planning Council fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely, 

Darlene Hightower
President and CEO

Board of Governors Chair Melissa Washington •	Executive Advisors Wilfried Aulbur Roland Berger
Vice Chair Development Kyle Barnett •	Carol L. Bernick Polished Nickel Capital Management LLC
Vice Chair Development Paul C. Carlisle •	John Bucksbaum Bucksbaum Retail Properties, LLC
Vice Chair Development Janet Chess •	Jonathan C. Bunge Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP
Treasurer Ramiro J. Atristain-Carrion •	David Casper BMO Financial Group
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Erica Marquez Avitia Carol Ross Barney Meena Beyers • Ciere Boatright Matthew Brewer • Carole Brown Todd C. Brown Christopher B. Burke Eileen Chin Chris Conley Lester Crown Francesca DeBiase Zena Diggs Nedra Sims Fears Manuel Flores • James C. Franczek, Jr. Alejandra Garza Janet R. Gonzalez Tudor Linda Goodman Jacques N. Gordon Martha Linsley Laritza Lopez Bernard Loyd Mary K. Ludgin James E. Mann Lee M. Mitchell David Mook Daryl Newell Jim O'Leary Sameer Patel Frank D. Pellicori J. Scot Pepper Julian G. Posada • Elle Rameil George A. Ranney, Jr. Matthew R. Reilein • Robert G. Reiter, Jr. Alana Ward Robinson Emma Rodriguez-Ayala Unmi Song Bruce W. Taylor Michael A. Thomas Mary White Vasys David L. Williams •• Paula Wolff Jessica Droste Yagan •	Keating Crown Sterling Bay Marsha Cruzan U.S. Bank J. Michael Drew Structured Development, LLC John Ettelson William Blair & Company Robert Frenzel CIBC U.S. John S. Gates, Jr. Tradelane Properties, LLC Nancy S. Gerrie Winston & Strawn LLP Ari F. Glass Mansueto Office Inc. Michael L. Keiser Bandon Dunes Golf Resort Steven N. Miller Origin Ventures Charles J. Moore The Banc Funds J. Marshall Peck InterPark Holdings LLC Joan Rockey The Mather Group Mark G. Sander Old National Bancorp Katherine M. Scherer Deloitte LLP Kristofer Swanson Charles River Associates Scott Swanson PNC Bank, Illinois Stephan B. Tanda Aptar Group, Inc. Edward J. Wehmer Wintrust Financial Corp. Theodore Weldon Lendlease
President & CEO Darlene Oliver Hightower •	
Executive Committee • General Counsel ••	



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

433 West Van Buren Street
Suite 450
Chicago, IL 60607

312-454-0400
cmap.illinois.gov

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is pleased to support the City of Chicago's FY 2022 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) application for the Englewood Line Trail project. This project will create a 1.7-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago.

As the comprehensive regional planning organization of northeastern Illinois, CMAP is committed to supporting initiatives that will advance equity, support walkable communities, and improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. ON TO 2050, the region's comprehensive plan, emphasizes the importance of leveraging the transportation network to promote inclusive growth. The project would complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets.

CMAP has been supportive of these efforts since partnering with the Chicago Department of Planning and Development on the initial development of the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan in 2011. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

Board Members

Gerald Bennett, Chair
Frank Beal
Matthew Brolley
Karen Darch
Paul Goodrich
James Healy
Nina Idemudia
John Noak
Rick Reinbold
Nancy Rotering
Stefan Schaffer
Carolyn Schofield
Anne Sheahan
Matthew Walsh
Diane Williams

Non-voting Members

Leanne Redden
Abolfazl Mohammadian

Executive Director

Erin Aleman

Hon. Pete Buttigieg

April 5, 2022

Page 2

Once again, CMAP is supportive of the City of Chicago's RAISE application for the Englewood Line Trail project. This project will positively impact some of the region's most historically disadvantaged communities meeting the critical standards set by the Biden Administration's Justice40 Initiative. It will provide the residents of Englewood and the entire region a destination point for recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin Aleman', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Erin Aleman
Executive Director

TM:EA



ELEVATE

773.269.4037
ElevateNP.org

322 S. Green St.
Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60607

March 31, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Elevate is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been systematically underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerating economic development, and enhancing transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan is the efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also, the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process.

With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Elevate fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Anne Evens
CEO, Elevate



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER

April 8, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Environmental Law & Policy Center supports the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding for the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund additional public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th Streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development, and enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on Chicago's Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan, which is designed to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

The Englewood Line Trail will provide more recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature for residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative can help to accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a special experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Environmental Law & Policy Center supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Howard A. Learner
Executive Director,
Environmental Law & Policy Center

35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1600 • Chicago, Illinois 60601
(312) 673-6500 • www.ELPC.org

Harry Drucker, Chairperson • Howard A. Learner, Executive Director
Chicago, IL • Columbus, OH • Des Moines, IA • Grand Rapids, MI • Indianapolis, IN
Minneapolis, MN • Madison, WI • North Dakota • South Dakota • Washington, D.C.



March 28, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Growing Home, Inc. is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process.

With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Growing Home, Inc. fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janelle St. John". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Janelle St. John
Executive Director



April 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express Urban Growers Collective's full support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This endorsement comes with my perspective and experiences as the Co-Founder & CEO Strategic Development and Programs for Urban Growers Collective and the President of Green ERA Educational NFP and Co-Owner of Green Era Sustainability Partners. Previously, I founded and was the Director of Growing Power – Chicago for 15 years from 2002 to 2017. I am also the co-founder of the Chicago Food Policy Action Council, serve on the board of Grow Greater Englewood and Leadership Council for Growing Home, and am advisor for the Community Food Navigator project. Recent appointments include IL Governor J.B. Pritzker for the IL Leadership Council for Agricultural Education (ICAE) for a 3 Year term (2022-2024), the Biden Administration' Farm Service Agency Committee for Illinois, and Co-Chair of the Food Equity Council for the City of Chicago.

The City of Chicago's RAISE grant requests funds for the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center our communities that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will also complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan.

A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

Urban Growers Collective is excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of



Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process. With its focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

As such, Urban Growers Collective fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Erika Allen", written in a cursive style.

Erika Allen
Co-Founder, CEO Programs & Development Strategy
Urban Growers Collective



35 East Wacker Drive
Suite 1782
Chicago, IL 60601-2314

T 312.427.3325
F 312.427.4907
info@activetrans.org
activetrans.org

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Active Transportation Alliance is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Active Transportation Alliance fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Rynell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" being more prominent than the last name "Rynell".

Amy Rynell
Executive Director



April 1, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Friends of the Parks is supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Nature Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development, and enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian environment.

The Englewood Line Nature Trail is a dream envisioned and driven by community residents. This trail will build green spaces to promote the health, spirituality, and well-being of residents of a historically underserved community. Already residents are leading nature walks, spiritual rituals, and engaging with the space near the proposed nature trail. Additionally, residents envision a connection to the history and culture of the Englewood neighborhood, helping create permanent space honoring the community surrounding the path. Investment in this project would make these programs more accessible to a wider range of attendees, safer, and better maintained. The result would be a natural space that is both a safe place to rest and rejuvenate and a mobility corridor.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the



surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Friends of the Parks fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juanita Irizarry". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Juanita Irizarry
Executive Director

March 14, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590



411 S. Wells St.
Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60607
312.356.9990
fotfp.org

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Friends of the Forest Preserves unites people to protect, promote, and care for the nearly 70,000 acres of forest preserves in Cook County, Illinois. Friends is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th and 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Agency fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Cox
Executive Director

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 Benjamin Cox, Executive Director

March 12, 2022



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

CNT fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Dean", written in a cursive style.

Robert Dean, CEO



March 7, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Kennedy-King College is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Kennedy-King College fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Thomas'.

Dr. Gregory Thomas
President

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL

78 E. Washington Street

Chicago, IL, 60602

April 6, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg

Secretary

United States Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE

Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of The Chicago Architecture Biennial (CAB), I am pleased to submit this letter in support of Englewood Line Trail for their application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding. The Chicago Architecture Biennial is an organization that presents global exhibitions and programs that explore daring and innovative ideas that imagine and inform the future of architecture and design. CAB collaborated with The Englewood Nature Trail in 2021 to raise awareness and engage community members around the future potential of the Trail.

Chicago is a world-class city known for its arts and culture, but even more so, architecture. The historic and new investments across the City firmly cement Chicago's place as both the home and birthplace of modern architecture and a global center to explore the endless possibilities and innovations in the built environment. The Englewood Nature Trail is a significant opportunity to focus on creative, safe community spaces in a Chicago neighborhood that has seen considerable disinvestment and racism in housing policies and development over the years. The opportunity to transform an abandoned elevated railroad into a community space is a deeply important investment in Englewood's predominately Black and Brown neighborhoods. Similar to the 606 Trail on the North Side of Chicago or the Highline in New York, the Trail has extraordinary potential to be a space for and by the community today. CAB believes architecture can be a tool for change that is community-driven, sustainable, and equitable. Our history has proven that urban planning, architecture, and design policies have directly been informed by race-based inequities, including access to quality housing, healthcare, education, public safety, and public spaces to gather. Restoring the Trail signals there is an investment and passion for preserving open spaces within historically underserved communities that are developed to be a community asset that can enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, including important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past ten years. In collaboration with civic and community partners, the City developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet is efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce, cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization, and conserving natural spaces for long-term ecological health resilience for residents and the surrounding environment.

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL

78 E. Washington Street

Chicago, IL, 60602

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also, the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three-year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process.

The Englewood Nature Trail site already serves as a hub gathering, including cultural events, mutual aid programs, farmer's markets, and a place for the local community to learn about urban agriculture. Through a grant from RIASE, the Trail can offer an established framework and infrastructure to engage more community members and local businesses. The groups contributing to the Trail's development have the capacity, network, and expertise to create a space that is embraced and serves as a resource for the community.

This initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development with a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

CAB fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Rachel Kaplan
Director, Chicago Architecture Biennial



April 6, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Chicago Park District strongly supports the City of Chicago's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) project on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail.

This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this project, which provides an exciting opportunity to add recreational space in the City's Englewood neighborhood, a priority for the Chicago Park District. Should your office need additional documentation regarding our support of this project, please contact **Tiffany Sostrin** at **312-257-4486** or **tiffany.sostrin@chicagoparkdistrict.com**.

Sincerely,

Rosa Escareño
Interim General Superintendent & CEO
Chicago Park District

Administration Office

541 North Fairbanks
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(312) 742-7529
(312) 747-2001 (TTY)
www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

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**Interim General
Superintendent & CEO**

Rosa Escareño

City of Chicago
Lori Lightfoot
Mayor



March 10, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

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We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Greater Englewood Chamber of commerce fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Felicia Slaton-Young, Co-Founder & Executive Director
Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce
fyoung@gechamber.com

Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce

815 W. 63rd St.
2nd Fl.
Chicago, IL 60621
Phone: 312.880.9674
greaterenglewoodchamber@gmail.com



GAGDC
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Maureen Renno
Cook County States Attorney

Carlos Nelson
CEO/Executive Director

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation (GAGDC) is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

GAGDC fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Nelson
CEO

Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corporation
1159 W. 79th Street | Chicago, IL 60620
(773) 483-3696 (o) | (773) 483-3692 (f)
www.gagdc.org | www.auburngreshamportal.org



March 22, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alessandra A. Kummelehne".

Alessandra A. Kummelehne
Office Manager/Sustainability Programs Director

Opportunity. Community. Impact.

www.ChiUL.org

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Donald E. Wilbon

President and CEO

Karen Freeman-Wilson



Contributions to the Chicago Urban League are deductible for income tax purposes

An affiliate of the
National Urban League

March 31, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Chicago Urban League is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

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We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

The Chicago Urban League fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Karen Freeman-Wilson
President & CEO



March 24, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

E.G. Woode, L3C is fully supportive of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. Also the City has introduced new civic engagement (We Will Chicago, a three year initiative) and neighborhood design guidelines (March 2022) to help streamline the community planning process.

With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

E.G. Woode, L3C fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deon Lucas".

Deon Lucas
President

COUNCIL MEMBER-CITY HALL
1137 WEST. 63RD STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60621
PHONE: 773-306-1981
EMAIL: INFO@16THWARD.ORG



CITY OF CHICAGO
CITY COUNCIL

STEPHANIE D. COLEMAN
ALDERMAN, 16TH WARD

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS
COMMITTEE AND RULES
EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
HUMAN RELATIONS AND HEALTH
LICENSE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY

April 29, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

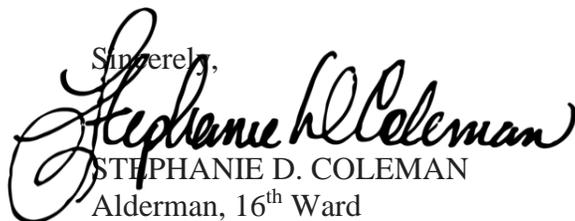
Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing this letter of support of the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will center those that have been underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged by creating a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for workforce and cooperative worker owned opportunities, housing stabilization and conserving nature spaces for long term ecological health resilience for residents and the environment.

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Sincerely,


STEPHANIE D. COLEMAN
Alderman, 16th Ward

SDC/cs



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-6149

April 11, 2022

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The Illinois Department of Transportation fully supports the City of Chicago's application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding on behalf of the Englewood Line Trail. This grant will fund the addition of public and recreational space in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago along an abandoned elevated railroad line between 58th & 59th streets. This initiative will create a safe trail for community use, accelerate economic development as well as enhance transportation access by improving the pedestrian and bicycle environment. The application seeks \$45 million in RAISE funding with the City of Chicago committed to the additional \$23 million. The total project cost is \$68 million.

This project will complement other revitalization activities focused on the Englewood neighborhood, which includes important social, economic, and natural assets. The area surrounding the proposed Englewood Line Trail has seen significant development over the past 10 years. The City, in collaboration with civic and community partners, developed the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan. A central tenet to the plan are efforts to support urban agriculture and recreation within communities across Chicago. Among the recommendations in the Green Healthy Neighborhoods plan are project plans for the Englewood Agricultural District and the Englewood Line Trail. By linking growing spaces in the Englewood Urban Agricultural District, the Englewood Line Trail will help fulfill the community's aspirations for a safe, inviting, and peaceful space for all to enjoy.

We're excited about the recreational opportunities, transportation access, and a connection to nature that the Englewood Line Trail will provide the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities. With a sharp focus on underutilized sites like the Englewood Line, this initiative will accelerate neighborhood revitalization and development. The Englewood Line Trail will truly be a unique experience for the residents of Englewood and the surrounding communities.

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
April 11, 2022
Page Two

The Illinois Department of Transportation fully supports this application and looks forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Osman, Omer".

Omer M. Osman, P.E.
Secretary